

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 9, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 9, 2008. Claims 1-3, 5-21, 26-41, 43, 44, 46, 48-55, 82-86, 90-101, 103-105, 107-109, and 111-114 are pending in the application. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 28-31, 34, 38, 41-44, 48, 50-55, 90, 91, and 95 and 112 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Burge (US 2005/0145390). The Examiner rejected Claims 32 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Burge. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 84 and 85. Additionally, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 83 and 86.

As amended, claims 1, 84 and 85 include the limitations of locating an expansion device on a workstring in tubing to be expanded and translating (or moving) the expansion device and the workstring relative to the tubing thereby expanding the tubing. Burge does not disclose these limitations. Burge merely discloses an expansion cone 14 that expands a tubular by moving upward along a conduit 20 due to fluid pressure generated below the expansion cone 14 (see Burge, paragraph 0041 and Figures 1-2). Burge further discloses that during the expansion process the expansion cone 14 is decoupled from the movement of the drill pipe 18 (see Burge, paragraph 0048). Regarding claim 83, Burge fails to disclose the step of creating the vibration by varying a pressure of fluid operatively associated with at least one of the device and the tubing. Regarding claim 86, Burge fails to disclose that the device is in rolling contact with the tubing.

As the foregoing illustrates, Burge fails to teach all the limitations claims 1, 83, 84, 85 and 86. This failure precludes Burge from anticipating claims 1, 83, 84, 85 and 86. Further, this failure precludes Burge from rendering claims 32 and 37 obvious. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the 102(e) and 103(a) rejections of the claims

be removed and allowance of the same. Additionally, the claims that depend from claims 1, 83, 84, 85 and 86 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 83, 84, 85 and 86.

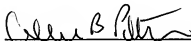
New Claim

New claim 115 has been added to claim aspects of the present invention. Applicants submit that no new subject matter has been added. Further, Applicants believe that Burge fails to teach or suggest a method of expanding tubing, the method comprising isolating a portion of the tubing containing an expansion device, applying a base pressure to the isolated portion of tubing, the base pressure creating a differential pressure across a wall of the tubing below the yield pressure of the tubing wall, vibrating at least one of the tubing and the expansion device, and expanding the isolated portion of tubing utilizing the expansion device, as recited in new claim 115. Therefore, Applicants believe that new claim 115 is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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